

What is claimed is:

1. A bayonet coupling for axially mounting an outer ring-shaped member on an inner ring-shaped member to allow a relative rotation therebetween, comprising:

5 one and the other of an annular groove and a plurality of bayonet lugs which are formed on an outer peripheral surface of said inner ring-shaped member and an inner peripheral surface of said outer ring-shaped member, respectively, so that said plurality of bayonet  
10 lugs are engaged in said annular groove to be rotatable relative to said annular groove; and

a plurality of insertion openings which are formed on one of said inner ring-shaped member and said outer ring-shaped member which includes said annular groove,  
15 said annular groove being open in a direction parallel to an axial direction through each insertion opening of said plurality of insertion openings;

wherein said plurality of bayonet lugs includes a plurality of first bayonet lugs which are associated with  
20 said plurality of insertion openings to be insertable into said annular groove through said plurality of insertion openings, respectively, and at least one second bayonet lug for which no associated insertion opening is formed on said one of said inner ring-shaped member and said outer  
25 ring-shaped member which includes said annular groove;

and

wherein said plurality of insertion openings, said plurality of first bayonet lugs and said second bayonet lug are shaped so that said second bayonet lug is  
5 insertable into said annular groove with axes of said outer ring-shaped member and said inner ring-shaped member being inclined to each other, and so that said plurality of first bayonet lugs are insertable into said annular groove through said plurality of insertion  
10 openings, respectively, after said second bayonet lug is inserted into said annular groove.

2. The bayonet coupling according to claim 1,  
wherein said second bayonet lug comprises a plurality of bayonet lugs.

15 3. The bayonet coupling according to claim 1,  
wherein a circumferential width of said second bayonet lug is greater than a width of any bayonet lug of said plurality of first bayonet lugs.

4. The bayonet coupling according to claim 1,  
20 wherein said plurality of first bayonet lugs have different circumferential widths, and said plurality of insertion openings have different circumferential widths correspondingly.

5. The bayonet coupling according to claim 4,  
25 wherein said circumferential widths of said plurality of

first bayonet lugs are different from each other and said circumferential widths of said plurality of insertion openings are different from each other correspondingly, so that one bayonet lug of said plurality of first bayonet lugs which has a wide circumferential width passes by the insertion opening of said plurality of insertion openings for another bayonet lug of said plurality of first bayonet lugs which has a narrow circumferential width when one of said outer ring-shaped member and said inner ring-shaped member rotates relative to the other.

6. The bayonet coupling according to claim 1, wherein said inner ring-shaped member is a stationary member of a lens barrel, and wherein said outer ring-shaped member is a rotatable ring-shaped member of said lens barrel.

7. The bayonet coupling according to claim 1, wherein said annular groove and said plurality of bayonet lugs are formed on said outer peripheral surface of said inner ring-shaped member and said inner peripheral surface of said outer ring-shaped member, respectively,

wherein said annular groove is formed between a pair of outer flanges formed on said outer peripheral surface of said inner ring-shaped member, and

wherein a plurality of cutout portions are formed 25 on one of said pair of outer flanges to serve as said

plurality of insertion openings.

8. The bayonet coupling according to claim 7,  
wherein a recess is formed on said outer peripheral  
surface of said inner ring-shaped member immediately  
5 behind the other of said pair of outer flanges.